UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/155
S/25627
19 April 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Item 79 of the preliminary list*
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 18 April 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement by the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia regarding recently adopted Security Council resolutions 819 (1993) and 820 (1993) (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 79 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIC
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/48/50.

ANNEX

Statement of 18 April 1993 by the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia regarding Security Council resolutions 819 (1993) and 820 (1993)

At its today's session, the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has considered the latest activities in the wake of the adoption of the Security Council resolutions concerning Srebrenica and the tightening of sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia notes with regret that the Security Council, bowing to the pressure of some of its members and under the influence of one-sided information, decided to step up the pressure on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. In doing so, it has disregarded the reports of UNPROFOR and of the Secretary-General of the world Organization and ignored the information provided by the Serbs from Bosnia. In that way, an inaccurate picture on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina is being projected and consequently one-sided resolutions are adopted at an accelerated pace.

The resolution continues to arbitrarily condemn the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for its alleged involvement in the crisis in the former Bosnia and Herzegovina, although it is evident, from the official reports of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the reports of the UNPROFOR commanders, that for almost a year there is no soldier of the Army of Yugoslavia in the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia provides humanitarian not military assistance to the Serbs in Bosnia. On the other hand, the Republic of Croatia has been defying the United Nations for a year now, with impunity, by its failure to comply with the demands contained in the Security Council resolution 752 to withdraw its regular armed forces.

An inter-ethnic and civil war is being waged in Bosnia and Herzegovina and that fact has been acknowledged by the international community through the structure of participants in the Geneva Conference on Bosnia and Herzegovina. Therefore, this war cannot be ended by finger-pointing at the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and by a hypocritical policy of tightening the sanctions against it.

Ever since the political solution to the crisis in Bosnia and Herzegovina was first sought and this year in particular, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has invested and is still investing constructive efforts aimed at an immediate and unconditional cessation of military operations and at establishing a just and lasting peace. Such a constructive contribution on the part of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was highly appreciated by many

factors involved in the resolution of the crisis in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Unfortunately, the Security Council, in this and other previous resolutions, has totally ignored the positive position of the FR of Yugoslavia by persistently treating it as a party to the conflict that should be punished. Should the Security Council continue to treat Yugoslavia in this way and as a result subject it to more punishment, the question arises whether the further involvement of the FR of Yugoslavia in overcoming the crisis in Bosnia and Herzegovina can have any meaning.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia particularly wishes to stress that the imposition of sanctions represents a gross violation of the fundamental human rights guaranteed by the Charter of the United Nations to all men and women and all nations. The international law does not recognize collective punishment of one nation - of innocent people and children - for political purposes.

An ultimatum deadline given to the Serbs in Bosnia to accept and sign the Vance-Owen peace plan in its entirety runs contrary to the conclusions of the Geneva negotiations and the adopted principles that the agreement would be sought on the basis of consensus of all three constituent peoples and that no solution will be imposed.

The question is now posed - what is the motive behind ignoring the adopted principles - seeking an end to the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina or an alibi for the perpetuation and stepping up of pressure against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia with a view to achieving other ends.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia remains fully committed to the policy of peace and overcoming the crisis in Bosnia and Herzegovina by political means, on the basis of equal respect of legitimate rights of all three constituent peoples. In that regard, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia will continue to closely cooperate with the United Nations and its representatives. However, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia will firmly defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity if forced to do so.